ture of their antennæ, maxillæ, labium, etc. Of those two groups we possess, as far as I am aware, only two good descrptions of larvæ: Mulsant's of the larva of *Geotrupes stercorarius* and Chapuis' of the larva of *Trox carolinus*. If we were to base our opinion upon these two descriptions only, it would incline in favor of a relationship of our larva with the *Trogidæ*, rather than with the *Geotrupidæ*. Chapuis' description of the larva of *Trox carolinus* agrees quite well with our larva; the description of the labium especially (lévre inférieure formée d'un menton et d'une piéce palpigére fondus en un real corps allongé) seems to indicate a structure somewhat analogous to that in our larva. On the contrary, Mulsant's description of the larva of Geotrupes disagrees with ours in several points. The antennæ are said to be four-jointed, the maxillæ to have two almost cylindrical lobes, the legs are described as bilobed at the end, etc. Finally, if it be true that the larva of Geotrupes has only two pairs of well developed legs, the third being almost atrophied, as Frisch (but not Mulsant) describes it, this would constitute another important difference.

Altogether, the materials at hand for comparison are too meagre for a final decision upon the relationship of the larva.

Before concluding I would advert once more to the singular fact that the shape of the mandibles changes after moulting. A similar peculiarity has been already observed among larvæ of other orders of insects. That the shape of the earlier mandibles is merely due to its being more worn is a supposition which will hardly be entertained by any one who has compared the two mandibles.

EXPLANATION OF THE FIGURES.

Fig. 1.—Larva from the side, natural size.
Fig. 2.—Head from above.
Fig. 3.—Labium, maxilla, and in front of them, the mandible *after moulting*.
Fig. 4.—Leg.

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On the CUPESIDÆ of North America.

BY JOHN L. LECONTE, M. D.

PRIACMA, n. g.

Since I have seen the Australian genus *Omma*, I recognize in *Cupes serrata* (Lec. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sc. Phila., 1861, 351) a distinct genus, intermediate between that and *Cupes*. From the latter it differs by the antennæ less approximate at base, shorter and stouter,

scarcely half as long as the body, with the joints triangular and narrower at the base, the 1st as long as but stouter than the 3d. The eyes are much smaller, though nearly smooth; the under surface of the head is quite different; gular sutures distant, curved slightly outwards, gular angles not porrected, but broad and truncate; mentum more prominent, maxillæ more exposed, maxillary palpi longer, last joint elongate, cylindrical, truncate. These differences were partly indicated by me in the remarks appended to the description of the species. The color is mottled gray; head with four subacute tubercles, but not lobed, front concave. Prothorax nearly square, with front angles prominent; elytra more convex, alternate interspaces feebly convex and a little uneven; side margins strongly toothed towards the tip.

Cupes lobiceps.—Body elongate, slender, pale gray, slightly mottled with darker; antennæ compressed, serrate for the lower half, two-thirds as long as the body; head deeply channelled and transversely impressed, thus divided into two large posterior tubercles or lobes, and two smaller frontal ones; there is also a lateral lobe behind the eye, separated by a deep groove, eyes large; prothorax suddenly narrowed in front, with the sides strongly elongated and a large median elevation which has a deep rhomboidal excavation; elytra with rows of moderate sized quadrate punctures, 3d interspace more convex, 5th, 6th and 7th forming an obtuse costa, 2d and 4th flat. Length .45 inch; 11 mm.

San Diego, California. A specimen kindly given to me by Mr. Ulke. This species resembles the figure of *C. Latreillei* Solier (Lacordaire, Gen. Col. Atlas, pl. 47, fig. 2) in the form of the antennæ. It differs conspicuously from our other species by the large posterior lobes of the head and the different sculpture of the prothorax. The following table will enable them to be easily recognized:—

A.—Antennæ serrate; gular sutures converging behind; eyes large. Cinereous mottled; head with four tubercles on the upper surface and two lateral; prothorax with elevated margins and disc ..... 1. **lobiceps.**

B.—Gular sutures parallel.

a.—Antennæ as long as the body, filiform; eyes large. Cinerous mottled; head with four feebly separated tubercles; prothorax transverse, sides not elevated ..... 2. **concolor.**

b.—Antennæ nearly cylindrical, one-half as long as the body; eyes small. Black; head with fulvous hair; with two frontal and four occipital tubercles, the middle ones smaller and less elevated ..... 3. **capitata.**